GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:793
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000
AMENDMENT IN THE DRAFT ELECTRICITY BILL
MOHAMMED SHAHABUDDIN

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the recommendations from the Institutions of Engineers that existing Acts be amended suitably to incorporate the positive proposals in the draft Electricity Bill, 2000 and drop the idea of enacting a fresh electricity legislation after scrapping the three existing Acts of 1910, 1948 and 1998 which are serving the country well;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Institutions of Engineers thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (c): While giving detailed comments and recommendations on the proposed Electricity Bill, 2000, the Institute of Engineers have highlighted the need for reforming the present system `where SEBs are providers, regulators and utility itself`. Among other suggestions are that the present set up may be split up on independent (but in a co-ordinated manner) functional basis so as to be totally accountable and transparent in its functioning. Unless the problem of theft is solved urgently, the reforms only will not bring out the desired results. In general, the Institution has favoured suitable amendments in the existing laws rather than the enactment of a new comprehensive legislation to replace existing laws. The comments of the Institution of Engineers have been duly considered.